GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT 1974

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR 1974

BY

SURG. CAPT. E H MURCHISON OBE RN (Rtd)

DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL & HEALTH SERVICES

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SENIOR STAFF AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1974

Director of Medical & Health Services	Surgeon Captain E H Murchison OBE QHS RN(Rtd) MB BCh
Pathologist/Analyst	E A Imossi MRCS FRC Path.
Medical Officers	D J Toomey MB BS FRCS(Edin) FRCS(Glas)
	J A Cochrane OBE MRCS (Eng) LRCP(Lond) DA
	C Suarez MRCS(Eng) LRCP (Lond) DO(Eng) DTM&H (Eng)
	R Doherty MB BS MRCOG FACS
	A H Kassam LRCP LRFPS MRCP (Glas)
	R Miller MD (Malta)
	A Soler MD (Malta)
Medical Officer & Forensic Pathologist to the Government	J C Cassaglia LRCP (Edin) LRCS (Edin) LRFPS (Glas)
Medical Specialist	J J Giraldi OBE MD (Brist) FRCP (Edin)
Dental Surgeon	J J Cochrane LDS RCS (Eng)
Superintendent, Psychiatric Unit	C M Montegriffo MB BS (Lond)
Assistant Port Medical Officer	C A Isola MB BCh BAO (Dublin) LAH(Ireland)
Administrator	M Cavilla Esq
Chief Public Health Inspector and Superintendent of Markets	A Almeda Dip RSH Dip RIPHH
Senior Public Health Inspector	J M Reyes FRSH ARIPHH
	J Delgado
Chief Medical Laboratory Technician & Deputy Analyst	J L Bruzon LRIC AIMLT
Head Pharmacist	E Hermida Esq
Matron	Mrs J J Giraldi MBE SRN SCM
Principal Tutor	R Durell SRN RNT
Assistant Matron	Miss J T Moncur SRC SCM
Administrative Assistant	C A Gomez Esq
Chief Clerks	A Pons Esq
	T Smith Esq

INTRODUCTION

The total number of registered live births was 575, giving a birth rate of 19.58 which is slightly higher than last year. The number of illegitimate births rose to 3.30 per cent of all births.

The death rate of 6.95 was lower than last year's figure. Coronary heart disease continued to be the highest single cause of death. It is not surprising when one considers the amount of food consumed locally as well as the ever-increasing number of cars and consequent lack of exercise.

The number of people dying from malignancy was the same as last year. Almost a quarter of these were due to cancer of the lung. This is a real tragedy as the majority of these deaths are preventable by not smoking.

We have had no maternal deaths for the 13th year.

Deaths of infants under one year was seven, giving an infant mortality rate of 12.7. The Perinatal mortality rate was 13.79.

All our vital statistics compare very favourably with the figures for the rest of Europe, indicating that our general standard of health is high.

It is very gratifying to note that the incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 0.10 per thousand of population, which again is the lowest ever recorded. Our vigilance over this old scourge of humanity must not relax and routine chest X-Raying of all immigrant workers is continuing. All School children are being Heaf tested yearly and those who are positive are followed up.

In May 1974, Surgeon Captain E H Murchison was appointed Director of Medical and Health Services.

The Public Health & Clinical Pathology Laboratory moved into the recently completed premises at St Bernard's Hospital on the 24 June 1974.

A Group Practice Medical Scheme, introduced in July 1973, enables registered persons and their dependants to obtain medical treatment in Government surgeries, or in their homes if they are unable to attend the surgeries. Persons who were already included in the District Medical Scheme obtain treatment free of charge under this Scheme.

Legislation was enacted towards the end of the year under review which will enable the introduction of a comprehensive health service as from the 6 January 1975. In exchange for increased contributions the new service will enable registered persons and their dependants to obtain medicines prescribed by a doctor under the Scheme from Scheme Pharmacists, on payment of 10p per item on the prescription. District patients will be exempted from the payment of any fees.

At the beginning of the year under review, a reciprocal health services agreement with Britain came into being. Under this agreement citizens of the United Kingdom temporarily resident in Gibraltar became entitled to health care in Gibraltar on the same conditions as citizens of Gibraltar. Similarly, citizens of Gibraltar temporarily resident in the United Kingdom became entitled to health care in the United Kingdom

on the same conditions as the people of the United Kingdom.

This Agreement does not apply to persons going from one country to the other for the express purpose of benefitting from the agreement, except that, where a citizen of Gibraltar is in need of hospital care for which adequate facilities do not exist in Gibraltar, he shall receive that hospital care in the United Kingdom on the same conditions as the people of the United Kingdom.

Notwithstanding this agreement a British Subject ordinarily resident in Gibraltar is entitled to use the Government's medical services and will be charged the same fees as a Gibraltarian.

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATOLOGICAL REPORT

(i) GEOGRAPHY

Gibraltar is situated in latitude 36° 09'N and longitude 5° 21'W and stands out, steeply and proudly, from the adjoining low-lying Spanish territory to which it is connected by a sandy isthmus about 1 mile long and ½ mile wide. Five miles across the Bay to the West lies the Spanish port of Algeciras and 20 miles across the Straits, to the South is Africa. The Mediterranean lies on the East. The distance to Britain is approximately 1,400 miles by sea.

The Rock runs from North to South for a length of nearly 3 miles. It is ¾ of a mile wide and has a total area of 2¼ square miles. Its highest point is 1,396 feet. The top of the Rock is a sharp knife-edge ridge extending for about a mile and a half from the North escarpment and then sloping gradually to the South for about 1 mile to terminate at the Southern extremity, Europa Point in perpendicular cliffs about a hundred feet high. The whole upper length of the Eastern face is inaccessible and the steep upper half of the Western slopes is uninhabited.

(ii) CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR THE YEAR 1974.

The following weather details have been kindly supplied by Mr S C Mason, Principal Meteorological Officer, Gibraltar -

RAINFALL

The yearly total rainfall was half of the long term average. Every month was drier than average except October and April. No rain fell in September and a small amount in December which made this the driest December for 122 years. April's rainfall was almost twice the average.

TEMPERATURE

The mean temperature 64.2°F is 0.2°F higher than the long term average; the largest differences from average were in January, April and October. The highest temperature 98.6°F occurred on August 7th, and the lowest minimum 43.2°F was recorded on 20th February. The lowest minimum recorded was in October and we have to go back to 1931 to find a lower October minimum.

SUNSHINE

The total sunshine measured amounted to 2907.4 hours which exceeds the average by 54.4 hours. Sunshine in April, June and December were well below average and the totals of September, October and November above average. The June total was the lowest measured for that month since records began in 1937.

WINDS

It was a windy year with mean winds above average every month except January and November. February, April, May and July were particularly windy with mean speeds 2 knots or more above the monthly averages. A gust was recorded on 12th February the only month when gale force winds occurred and the highest hourly mean speed of 220 degrees 37 knots was measured.

Westerly winds were predominant in February, March, April, September and October, and mostly easterly during July and December. Westerlies were more frequent than is customary in August and it is unusual for a predominance of easterlies in December.

THUNDER

Thunderstorms occurred on 14 days during the year, on 5 days in April 3 days in June and 2 days each in March and May. The other two occasions were in October and November.

FOG

Fog occurred on 18 days, 6 of which were in September and 4 in August: the rest were distributed throughout the year, although no fog occurred in January, March, April and June.

SUMMARY

1974 was extremely dry with above average sunshine and temperatures above average most months. Westerly winds were more in evidence in summer with easterly winds more frequent during the last quarter than usual. Another noteable feature was the high incidence of winds from a southerly direction during the day, during the last quarter, a feature normally characteristic of the summer months at Gibraltar.

STATION NORTH FRONT, GIBRALTAR

Lat. 36° 09'N Long 05° 21'W Barometric Height 25 ft above mean sea level Raingauge 10 ft above mean sea level

1974 MONTH	AIR TEMPERATURES Maximum °F	Maximum °C	Minimum °F	Minimum °C	RELATIVE HUMITY Highest of the six hourly periods 0300 1500 0900 2100	Lowest of the six hourly periods 0300 1500 0900 2100	RAINFUL Total (mm)	Maximum in 24 hours (mm)	SUNSHINE Daily Mean (hours)
January	62.8	17.1	52.0	11.1	76	79	33.8	13.5	5.24
February	61.3	16.3	51.1	10.6	71	74	88.4	65.6	6.31
March	63.5	17.5	51.4	10.8	70	74	26.7	6.8	6.92
April	63.5	17.5	52.3	11.3	72	78	136.1	36.7	7.14
May	71.6	22.0	58.5	14.7	75	82	5.8	5.7	10.59
June	76.3	24.6	63.7	17.6	80	83	9.2	2.8	8.81
July	81.1	27.3	67.8	19.9	81	82	Trace	Trace	10.95
August	83.3	28.5	68.5	20.3	79	81	Trace	Trace	10.99
September	80.8	27.1	64.6	18.1	72	78	0.0	0.0	10.19
October	71.4	21.9	57.7	14.3	70	72	96.1	50.3	8.16
November	66.4	19.1	54.7	12.6	81	81	7.8	5.1	6.31
December	62.4	16.9	54.5	12.5	80	83	0.7	0.7	3.83
	70.4	21.3	58.1	14.5	76	79	404.6	65.6	7.95

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1974

Total Area of Gibraltar . . . . . 1,387 acres

Area of the City . . . . . 104 acres

* POPULATION

	ADULTS		CHILDREN 0-14	
	Males	Females	Both sexes	TOTAL
Gibraltarians	6540	7597	5019	19156
Other British (including families of members of H.M. Forces)	1414	2236	2686	6336
Aliens	3246	576	48	3870
	11200	10409	7753	29362

Number of Births	575
Males	304
Females	271
Birth Rate	19.58
Number of Deaths	204
Males	117
Females	87
Death Rate	6.95
Number of Stillbirths	5
Stillbirth Rate	8.70
Infant Mortality	7
Infant Mortality Rate	12.17
Neo-Natal Mortality	3
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	5.22
Peri-natal Mortality	3
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	13.79

*These figures are based on the estimated population of Gibraltar on the 31 December 1974

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

There were 575 live births registered during the year from the resident population, of which 304 were males and 271 were females. This represents a crude birth rate of 19.58 per 1,000 population, which is slightly higher than last year's figure.

LIVE BIRTHS FOR 1974

	St Bernard's Hospital		Royal Naval Hospital		Outside the Hospitals	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
January	18	14	7	10		
February	17	9	8	3		
March	12	21	8	8		
April	15	18	11	10		
May	19	13	6	7		
June	17	14	14	9		
July	14	17	7	9		
August	22	19	8	13		
September	19	20	10	11		
October	19	8	5	6		
November	29	14	10	3		
December	12	12	6	3		
	204	179	100	92	-	
	383		192			
	575					

STILLBIRTHS

There were five stillbirths during the year, 3 of which were females and 2 were males. This represents a stillbirth rate of 8.70.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

There were 19 illegitimate births of which 8 were males and 11 were females. This represents 3.30 of all births.

Date	Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Illegitimate Births (as percentage of all Births)
1955	22.59	.20	2.8
1960	23.49	7.04	0.7
1961	17.28	10.58	0.5
1962	23.22	17.51	0.17
1963	26.43	18.36	1.25
1964	25.69	14.01	1.11
1965	26.87	8.84	1.47
1966	23.71	11.59	1.00
1967	21.16	9.26	1.11
1968	20.04	3.68	1.29
1969	19.60	5.26	1.97
1970	19.68	8.59	1.89
1971	20.70	10.10	3.54
1972	19.86	11.90	1.36
1973	17.91	16.79	1.49
1974	19.58	8.70	3.30

DEATHS

The number of deaths recorded was 204 of which 117 were males and 87 were females. This represents a crude death rate of 6.95 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS BY MONTHS AND QUARTERS

January	37	April	20	July	21	October	9
February	13	May	21	August	20	November	15
March	19	June	9	September	10	December	9
	69		50		51		34

The majority of all deaths ie 161 or 79% occurred in persons over 55 years of age whereas 140 or 69% occurred in those over 65.

In the over 75 years old there were 78 deaths or 38% of all deaths.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause	Number	Percentage of Total Number
Cardio-vascular disease (excluding cerebral)	63 (81)	31% (33)
Cerebro vascular disease	34 (30)	17% (12)
Malignant disease	34 (38)	17% (16)
Respiratory diseases (excluding neoplasm)	42 (32)	21% (13)

(figures in brackets are for the year 1973)

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CIVIL POPULATION DURING 1974 ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL INTERMEDIATE LIST WITH AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE

CAUSES OF DEATH	List No	All Ages	0		1		2		3		4		5/9		10/14		15/19		20/24		25/29		30/34		35/39		40/44		45/49		50/54		55/59		60/64		65/69		70/74		75/79		80/84		85 &	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm of:																																														
Oropharynx	146	1																																	1											
Oesophagus	150	1																																					1							
Stomach	151	6																															2		1								2			
Colon	153	2																											1																	1
Rectum & Rectosigmoid Junction	154																																													
Liver	155	3																			1										1										1					
Pancreas	157	2																															1								1					
Larynx	161																																													
Lung & Trachea Bronchus	162	8																															2				2		2		1	1				
Malignant Neoplasm of Bone	170	1																																			1									
Skin	173																																													
Breast	174	1																																								1					
Cervix Uteri	182	1																																						1							
Ovaries	183	1																																				1								
Prostate	185																																													
Bladder	188																																													
Carcinomatosis	199	6																															1		1		1		1			2				
Leukaemia	204/205	1																											1																	
Myzoedema	244																																													
Diabetes Mellitus	250																																													
Other Metabolic Diseases	270/279	1																																						1							
Diseases of the Blood & Blood Forming Organs	280/289																																													
Hypertensive Disease	400/404	4																													1							1					1			1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	410/414	47																									1				1		1	2	5	1	6	2		4	3	4	4	2	1	
Other Forms of Heart Disease	420/429	11		1																											1	1					2	1		1		1	1	1		1
Cerebrovascular Disease	430/438	34																													1					1	2	1	2	5	2	3	4	5	3	5
Diseases of Arteries Arterioles & Capillaries	440/448	1																																										1		

CAUSES OF DEATH	List No	all Ages	0		1		2		3		4		5/9		10/14		15/19		20/24		25/29		30/34		35/39		40/44		45/49		50/54		55/59		60/64		65/69		70/74		75/79		80/84		85 & +	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Diseases of Veins, Lymphatic & other	450/																																													
Diseases of Circulatory System	458																																													
Pneumonia	480/ 486	31																																			4	1	3	2	7	1		3	5	5
Bronchitis, Emphysema & Asthma	490/ 493	5																															1						2				1		1	
Other Diseases of Upper Respiratory Tract	500/ 508																																													
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	510/ 519	3																																							2	1				
Ulcer of Stomach	531																																1													
Ulcer of Duodenum	532	1																																					1							
Intestinal Obstruction	560	1																																												
Peritonitis	567																										1						1						1							
Cirhosis of the Liver	571	3																																								1					
Other Diseases of Liver	573	1																																												
Diseases of Pancreas	577																																													
Nephritis & Nephrosis	580/ 584	4							1																						1						1								1			
Other Diseases of Urinary System	590/ 599	1																																						1							
Congenital Anomalies	740/ 759																																													
Certain Causes of Perinatal Morbidity and Mortality	760/ 779	5	3	2																																										
Senility & Ill Defined Diseases	790/ 796	8																																									2	1	5	
Motor Vehicle Accident	E810/ 823	1															1																														
Internal Injury of Chest, Abdomen & Pelvis	N860/ N869																																													

CAUSES OF DEATH	List No	All Ages	0		1		2		3		4		5/9		10/14		15/19		20/24		25/29		30/34		35/39		40/44		45/49		50/54		55/59		60/64		65/69		70/74		75/79		80/85		85 & +	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
All Other External Causes	E960/969	4																							1				1									1		1						
Suicide & Self Inflicted Injury	E950/E959																																													
Haematemesis	784	1																																	1											
Motor Neurone Disease	348	1																																	1											
Gastro Enteritis	561	2	1																																1											
		204	4	3					1								1				1				1		2		1	2	6	1	8	4	11	2	19	8	23	18	16	15	12	16	11	18

As can be seen from the above table these chief causes of death accounted for 173 or 85% of all deaths.

Arterial diseases caused 81 deaths, which is 40% of all deaths. Ischaemic heart disease was again the highest single cause of death while cerebro-vascular disease was the second commonest.

The number of people dying from malignancy was slightly lower than last year.

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 7 which gave an infant mortality rate of 12.17. Three infants died within the first four weeks of birth, which represents a neo-natal mortality rate of 5.22. Of these 2 died within the first twenty-four hours of life.

PERI-NATAL MORTALITY

As is obvious from the foregoing, it seems to be a question of chance whether the child is stillborn or dies in the first hours of life. Hence the importance of grouping stillbirths and deaths in the first week of life as Peri-natal deaths.

The number of such deaths has been three which represents a Peri-natal mortality rate of 13.79.

NEO-NATAL, INFANT MORTALITY & PERI-NATAL RATES 1945-1974

Year	Neo-natal Mortality Rate	Infant Mortality Rate	Peri-natal Mortality
1945	16.4	33.89	-
1950	8.4	28.16	30.02
1955	5.36	18.76	25.5
1960	14.81	14.81	18.77
1961	29.41	34.75	27.03
1962	17.82	19.60	35.02
1963	28.00	35.80	41.35
1964	22.26	31.79	41.45
1965	14.73	20.62	23.56
1966	6.70	11.75	16.56
1967	16.82	18.69	22.22
1968	9.23	9.23	12.87
1969	19.74	26.93	19.64
1970	5.20	8.67	12.03
1971	18.52	25.25	26.67
1972	13.77	17.21	22.11
1973	26.12	26.12	16.51
1974	5.22	12.17	13.79

DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR FROM SELECTED CAUSES, BY AGE AND SEX

Cause of Death	List Nos.	Total under 1 yr	0 day		1 day		2 days		3 days		4 days		5 days		6 days		7/13 days		14/20 days		21/27 days		28 days to mths		3/5 mths		6/8 mths		9/11 mths	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Other Forms of Heart Disease	420/429	1																	1											
Diseases of Respiratory System	510/519	3	1		1																					1				
Certain causes of Perinatal Morbidity and Mortality	760/779	2	1																				1							
Gastro Enteritis	561	1																											1	
		7	2		1														1				1		1				1	

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF DEATH FROM MALIGNANT DISEASE

Site	List No	All Ages	25/29		30/34		35/39		40/44		45/49		50/54		55/59		60/64		65/69		70/74		75/79		80/84		85+	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Malignant Neoplasm of:-																												
Oropharynx	146	1															1	-										
Oesophagus	150	1																			1	-						
Stomach	151	6													-	2	1	-			-	1			2	-		
Colon	153	2									-	1															-	1
Liver	155	3	1	-									1	-							-	1						
Pancreas	157	2													1	-							1	-				
Lung, Trachea & Bronchus	162	8													2	-			2	-	2	-	1	1				
Bone	170	1																	1	-								
Breast	174	1																					-	1				
Cervix Uteri	182	1																			-	1						
Ovaries	183	1																	-	1								
Carcinomatosis	199	6													1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	2				
Leukaemia	204/205	1									-	1																
		34	1	-							-	2	1	-	4	2	3	-	4	1	4	3	2	4	2	-	-	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The infectious diseases statutorily notifiable under the provisions of the Public Health Ordinance in Gibraltar are -

Smallpox, Cholera, Epidemic Typhus, Plague, Yellow Fever, Relapsing Fever, Dysentery, Diphtheria, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, Scarlatina or Scarlet Fever, Typhoid or Enteric Fever, Acute Encephalitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, Chickenpox, Epidemic Parotitis, Erysipelas, Leprosy, Measles, Meningococcal Infection, Ophthalmia, Neonatorum, Paratyphoid Fever, Pertussis, Puerperal Fever, Rubella, Trachomas, Tuberculosis (all forms), Venereal Disease.

There were 256 cases notified from the resident civil population which represents an incidence of 8.7

All cases notified are visited by the District Public Health Inspector who investigates and advises the parents on exclusion and fumigation if the case warrants it.

In cases of tuberculosis we have an Assistant Health Visitor who works directly with the Tuberculosis Clinic. She, in close liaison with the Public Health Inspectors, arranges for all necessary investigations and public health measures.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

In 1974 we had only 3 cases notified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis these were among the non-resident alien population.

INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS 1935-39 and 1945-74

Year	Cases	Deaths	Incidence per thousand	Deaths per thousand
1935	23	15	-	0.88
1936	30	19	1.90	1.20 (TB Officer appointed)
1939	16	14	0.8	-
	Civil population evacuated during the war			
1945	42	7	2.4	0.4
1949	32	8	0.89	0.32
1950	19	6	0.76	0.24
1955	20	2	0.76	0.08
1959	16	1	0.66	0.04
1960	9	4	0.36	0.16
1961	6	2	0.27	0.09
1962	14	0	0.57	0.00
1963	6	0	0.29	0.00
1964	13	0	0.54	0.00
1965	9	1	0.36	0.04
1966	5	1	0.20	0.03
1967	17	2	0.67	0.08
1968	15	2	0.56	0.07
1969	11	0	0 39	0.00
1970	6	0	0.20	0.00
1971	18	1	0.63	0.03
1972	5	2	0.17	0.07
1973	4	-	0.14	0.00
1974	3	-	0.10	0.00

NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

There were no cases notified during the year.

ENTERIC FEVER

As I have previously stated the fact that enteric fever is endemic in the surrounding countries is a constant source of worry because of the possibility of an outbreak of it occurring here.

We are checking all food handlers on arrival but as they commute frequently to and fro the danger is very real.

DYSENTRY

This year we had 6 cases of bacillary dysentery notified but it is our belief that an appreciable number of cases do occur yearly and that because of their mildness are treated symptomatically and not notified.

GASTRO ENTERITIS

There were two cases resulting in death, one in a baby of nine months and another in a male of 64 years.

DIPHTHERIA

There were again no cases during the year which means that we have had no cases

for 13 years. Two factors are responsible for this - the greater number of children who are being immunized against the disease as also the fact that there is less contact with the hinterland.

RUBELLA

Seven cases were notified

MEASLES

Thirteen cases were notified.

MUMPS

There were 125 cases notified.

ERYSIPELAS

Four cases were notified.

CHICKEN POX

Thirtytwo cases were notified.

SCARLET FEVER

There were only two cases notified.

WHOOPING COUGH

Three males and three females were notified as suffering from whooping cough

POLIOMYELITIS

There were no cases during 1974

VENEREAL DISEASES

Our figures on these diseases must be carefully interpreted as otherwise a very erroneous picture may be deduced .

The majority of the cases , both of syphillis and gonococcal infection, have been contracted away from Gibraltar.

Infectious Diseases - by Age and Sex - Civil Population, 1974

Diseases	Sex	All Ages	0	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75 & +
003 Other Salmonella Infections	T	10	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	1	4	1	-	-
	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
	F	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-
004 Bacillary Dysentery	T	6	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
	M	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
010-012 Pulmonary Tuberculosis	T	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
033 Whooping Cough	T	6	2	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	M	3	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
034 Scarlet Fever	T	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
035 Erysipelas	T	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1
	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
052 Chicken Pox	T	32	1	1	1	4	2	20	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
	M	20	1	1	-	3	-	13	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	12	-	-	1	1	2	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
055 Measles	T	13	4	6	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	7	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	6	-	4	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
056 Rubella	T	7	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	M	5	1	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-

Diseases	Sex	All Ages	0	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-44	45-64	65-74	75 & +
072 Mumps	T	125	-	3	15	11	15	54	8	1	3	8	6	1	-
-	M	72	-	1	11	4	10	35	4	-	2	3	2	-	-
	F	53	-	2	4	7	5	19	4	1	1	5	4	1	-
090-097 Syphilis & its sequellae	T	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	3	2	-
	M	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	1	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
098 Gonococcal infection	T	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	19	12	1	-	-
	M	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	19	12	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
009 Gastro Enteritis	T	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	M	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Infectious Diseases - Monthly and Quarterly Incidence - Civil Population, 1974

CASES		TOTAL	January	February	March	1st Qtr.	April	May	June	2nd Qtr.	July	August	September	3rd Qtr.	October	November	December	4th Qtr.
003	Other Salmonella Infections	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	1	10	-	-	-	-
004	Bacillary Dysentery	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
009	Gastro Enteritis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
010-012	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
033	Whooping Cough	6	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	2	3	-	-	1	1
034	Scarlet Fever	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
035	Erysipelas	4	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
052	Chicken Pox	32	1	1	1	3	3	13	5	21	2	1	-	3	-	3	2	5
055	Measles	13	1	1	1	3	3	2	2	7	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	1
065	Rubella	7	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	3	-	2	-	2
072	Mumps	125	1	4	6	11	6	22	27	55	36	11	6	53	5	1	-	6
090/097	Syphilis and its sequellae	12	-	2	-	2	-	1	1	2	5	-	-	5	2	1	-	3
098	Gonococcal Infection	34	3	3	2	8	2	2	6	10	2	4	5	11	2	1	2	5

VACCINATION AND IMMUNIZATION PROGRAMME

Vaccination against Smallpox

In Gibraltar we still have compulsory vaccination at the age of three months and re-vaccination at the age of twelve years in view of our geographical position.

The number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out during the year were -

Primary vaccinations - 355

Re-vaccinations - 510

The majority of these cases were successfully vaccinated at the first attempt, but the following is a summary of those who required subsequent attempts.

	2nd Attempt	3rd Attempt	4th Attempt
Primary vaccination	14	1	-
Re-vaccinations	20	3	-

Very few of the cases vaccinated showed any untoward reaction and these were children who developed very mild forms of generalized vaccina. They all cleared up without any special treatment.

IMMUNIZATION

This service continues to be run very successfully from the Health Department, now at the Health Centre, Casemates. Considering that no propaganda other than word of mouth has been used to encourage mothers to have their children immunized the attendances are very satisfactory.

It should be noted that these statistics also include the active immunization schemes run by the Services for their families.

The only side effects to these vaccines were mild allergic reactions.

The following is a summary of the cases of primary immunization for 1974:

Type of Vaccine	1st Dose	2nd Dose	3rd Dose	Booster
Antipoliomyelitis	327	265	278	114
Triple Antigen	213	191	174	-
Tetanus Toxoid	11 (+546)	7(+102)	12(+22)	-
Diphtheria & Tetanus	105	95	97	113
Diphtheria Toxoid	1	1	-	-

ANIMAL CONTROL

The importation of dogs and cats is not allowed except direct from the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland, and this, subject to certain conditions.

The dog impounder continued his activities during 1974 and 135 dogs and 450 cats were seized during the year. Eleven of the dogs were claimed by the owners.

The procedure following the impounding of a stray dog is that the animal is kept in thepound for seven days and if at the end of this period it is not claimed by the owner, it is painlessly destroyed. If, on the other hand, the dog is claimed, the owner is required to pay the maintenance of the animal during the time it has been kept in the pound. In the event of the animal in question being unlicensed or found not to be wearing a muzzle at the time of seizure, the matter is reported to the Police.

We should express our appreciation to the various Veterinary Surgeons of the RAVC for their advice and help on the problems of animals generally during their periodic official visits to the Rock.

We are also grateful to the RSPCA Inspectors for their hard work and co-operation, and to the Honorary Secretary, in Gibraltar, for supplying the following figures about the number of dogs, cats and other animals boarded and painlessly destroyed by them during the year 1974 -

NO OF ANIMALS BOARDED AT THE RSPCA KENNELS

170 dogs, cats and other animals/or birds

NO OF ANIMALS DESTROYED

116 dogs ≠ - all sources, road accidents, strays, unwanted, old etc.

298 cats +

87 other animals

5 01

≠ Through old age, chronically sick cases and accidents

+ Wild and accidents

MATERNITY, CHILD WELFARE AND SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES

MATERNITY SERVICE

The Maternity Department consists of two wards of thirteen beds, two private rooms, a two-bedded labour ward, nursery, admission room and ante-natal clinic.

On an average there were 30 deliveries per month, the same figure as that for 1973. Mothers stay in hospital 5/6 days for a normal delivery, 8 days for forceps deliveries and 10/14 days for Caesarian Sections.

Ante-natal patients were admitted for rest and treatment staying from a few days to several weeks.

Relaxation classes held by the Physiotherapist were well attended. Post natal exercises were poorly attended but written instructions were given to mothers on discharge as an encouragement.

SUMMARY OF WORK IN THE DEPARTMENT

			1974		1973
Total Live Births:	Males	203		159	
	Females	180	383	184	343
Stillbirths:	Males	2		6	
	Females	1	3	3	9
Neonatal deaths:			3		14
Premature births			18		20
Twins			3prs		5 prs
Caesarian Sections			44		43
Toxaemias			5		18

Of the 383 babies born, 280 were delivered by qualified midwives attached to the Department and the remainder by the Medical Staff.

For the 13th year running there were no maternal deaths.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICE

Child Welfare Clinics were held throughout the year at the Health Centre. Dr Kassam, the Clinic doctor, held a weekly session on Monday afternoons.

'Well Baby' clinics supervised by the Health Visitor were held every afternoon. These clinics have been very well attended. Mothers tend to be very young in years nowadays and they are encouraged to make full use of the Welfare Services provided. It is found that they are remarkably good about caring for very young babies, and seek advice when anything goes wrong. Mothers who have jobs send the baby to the Clinic with a relative. During the year under review home visiting has again been adversely affected by staff illness.

Social and marital problems continue to increase so too does the number of young girls who marry because they are pregnant. They live with in-laws and most of these marriages are under pressure from the start. It is unusual to visit a first baby whose parents have a home of their own.

Privately-run Nursery Schools continue to flourish.

Close liaison is maintained with the Family Care Unit, the Maternity and Children's Ward at St Bernard's Hospital and the Eye Department the staff of which are always very helpful. It is useful and interesting to exchange views with the SSAFA Sister. Contact is kept with the Secretary of the Society of Handicapped Children and there is good co-operation with the School Medical Service.

PAEDIATRICIAN'S CLINIC

	1974	1973
Number of children registered	389	372
Total Number of Attendances	601	511
Number of Clinics Held	49	55

HEALTH VISITORS CLINICS

Number of children registered	1073	1019
Total Number of Attendances	9997	8424

Age Groups of the children attending the Health Visitors' Clinics:

YEAR OF BIRTH	AGE-GROUP	NUMBER
1969	Reached 5 years	32
1970	4 - 5	87
1971	3 - 4	108
1972	2 - 3	156
1973	1 - 2	317
1974	0 - 1	373

HOME VISITING - NUMBER OF VISITS

	1974	1973
Primary visits, ie the first visit paid to new baby	440	391
To Children under one year	890	710
To Children over one year	3066	2976
Special visits, ie to problem families and families in difficult circumstances and visits paid at Paediatrician's request	195	104
Ante-natal, ie advice given to expectant mothers	119	248
Visits paid where children were not at home or not seen for other reasons	532	414
Removals -		
(i) Traced	55	27
(ii) Untraced	4	2
Number of home visits	3313	3032

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The School Health Service is under the direction of the Director of Medical and Health Services, who is the Principal School Medical Officer. Clinics were held twice weekly. Most of these were held at the various schools. Twice a month a clinic was held at the Health Centre one for special cases requiring follow-up or further assessment; the other was held in order to plan out policies and ensure smooth running of the service.

Meetings were held at intervals with the Director of Education, Departmental Officials, Head Teachers and school teachers. These meetings were essential to smooth out differences and misunderstandings and to discuss matters of policy. The liaison that now exists will be an important foundation for further improvements in the present service.

Children suffering from acute illnesses were referred to their own private doctors, but if the parent or guardian gave consent they were prescribed treatment by the School Medical Officer.

A number of children had to be referred to hospital for consultant advice. 599 children were referred to the Ophthalmic clinic for refractive errors. As part of the general medical check-up all school children are now being screened for colour-blindness.

The dental health of the school children is on the whole poor, 1366 children were referred to the School Dental Officer. In November the services of a part-time Dental Surgeon were obtained and he is in sole charge of the School Dental Service.

CASES REFERRED TO THEIR OWN DOCTOR

The number referred to their own doctor was 21.

CASES REFERRED TO OTHER HOSPITAL CLINICS

These numbered 15.

CASES REFERRED TO SCHOOL DENTAL CLINIC

One thousand three hundred and sixty six were referred to the school dental clinic.

OPHTHALMIC CLINICS

Five hundred and ninetynine cases referred to this clinic by the school doctor, or at their parent's request, were for refraction.

CLEANLINESS

The number of children inspected by the School Nurse during the year was 7855

There were 263 instances of 'verminous heads' but it must be noted that this number is boosted up by the number of cases which were found to be infested on more than one occasion.

HOME VISITS

The number of homes visited during the year was 257. These were directed at finding out the children's background so as to help and advise parents whose children require supportive treatment. Unfortunately we do not possess the necessary number of social workers to be able to cope with all the cases needing help.

IMMUNIZATION

The immunization of children is carried out in the Public Health Department at the Health Centre, Casemates.

HEAF TESTS

A total of 132 schoolchildren were heaf tested with 5 positive results.

All positive cases and their families were X-Rayed and re-checked.

PORT HEALTH WORK

Maritime

The statutory function of the Service, the application of the Quarantine Ordinance including the granting of Pratique to shipping, was maintained efficiently throughout the year. As is well known with regard to the service at Gibraltar, the system of operation is designed to cause the minimum of delay in Port entry and, in the case of vessels which call for medical assistance, quick despatch.

There were 164 medical visits to ships during the year. 114 persons were landed due to illness; of these 32 seamen were landed from British ships, 72 seamen from foreign ships and 4 passengers were landed for hospitalisation. These figures do not include seamen landed from Royal Fleet Auxiliaries.

65 ships called into port solely for the purpose of receiving medical advice or treatment, and 6 dead bodies were landed.

CARE OF THE BLIND

This Section is based on the work of the Gibraltar Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

During the year under review there have only been two new registrations and this is a welcome sign. There are now 80 registered blind or partially sighted persons. Of these 61 are women aged between 45 and 85, only one is in her thirties. Of 18 men most are between the age of 50 and 82, and again only one is in his thirties. One registered child aged 3, who had left the Rock is now back and is the only registered blind child.

Fortyone persons receive supplementary benefit and 9 pocket money. During the year 6 blind persons died, 5 women and one man.

During these last years, the number of blind or partially sighted persons in Gibraltar has dropped considerably from 94 to 80. This is probably due to the greater care taken of eyesight, especially in early life.

The Society for the Prevention of Blindness is always prepared to send to England for training anyone who has the misfortune to lose his sight at an early age, provided the prognosis is favourable.

The British Talking Book Service has been very helpful by extending the service to Gibraltar, and these tapes provide many hours of pleasure to our blind.

The Society is constantly trying to help blind persons acquire better accommodation and the Government whenever possible meets our request, although shortage of housing is such a problem in Gibraltar. At the request of the Society, Government grants free medical attention to blind persons, and a higher rate of supplementary benefit than given to sighted persons.

The Society's work is carried out by visitors, who are allocated different districts. Some of these visitors have carried out these voluntary duties for many years.

Bus companies kindly transport blind persons free of charge on the production of a ticket with their photograph vouched for by the Society.

The Society's income is derived from flag days and donations including a proportion of the British Forces Broadcasting Services New Yer's Eve appeal for 'Wireless for the Blind'.

The Society gives a cash gift to everyone on the register and organises a party for them and other residents in the John Mackintosh Homes at Christmas.

The Society is affiliated with the British Commonwealth Society for the Blind.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

INSPECTIONS

Four thousand five hundred and nine inspections were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year, in the course of which 3564 nuisances were discovered. Appropriate action was taken and subsequently 2033 visits were paid to ensure that the nuisances reported had been effectively abated.

Five hundred and sixty investigations were carried out at the request of the Housing Manager for the purpose of reporting on the living conditions of applicants for accommodation in Government-owned premises, or following complaints made to the Public Health Department by persons living in overcrowded homes.

Food catering establishments, ice-cream depots, and mineral water factories were inspected on eight hundred and ninetyseven occasions.

Deficiencies found were generally put right by verbal representations to the owners of the establishments, but official warning letters had to be served on some of the more recalcitrant.

Fortythree underground tanks were inspected after cleansing and white-washing.

Periodical samples of water were taken to ascertain fitness for human consumption and chlorination was carried out as required.

Six visits were paid to Hairdressers and Barber shops.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

There were sixtynine Court attendances in connection with legal proceedings instituted by the Public Health Department. These prosecutions were conducted by the Department's prosecutor.

Fiftyseven attendances in Court were in connection with prosecutions under the Public Health Ordinance for non-compliance with the requirements of abatement notices served. These resulted in twenty-six convictions.

Nine convictions were awarded for offences against the Food and Drugs Ordinance.

A total of £293 were imposed in fines and £76.30 were awarded as costs.

DRAIN TESTING

Twentyfive tests were carried out during 1974.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED:	
Written	229
Verbal	1742
PREMISES INSPECTED:	
General inspection	180
House-to-House inspection	4509
Statutory notices served	288
NUISANCES FOUND	3429
DRAIN TESTS	25
SAMPLES OF WATER TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS	68
UNDERGROUND WATER TANKS INSPECTED	43
SAMPLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS	71
VISITS OF ENQUIRY	
Re Infectious Diseases	26
Re Housing	560
To Eating Houses, Bakeries, shops, etc	897
To Hairdressers and Barber Shops	6
To Factories and Workshops	7
To Premises generally to see whether nuisances reported have been abated	2033
VACCINATION NOTICES SERVED	675
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED	60
INSPECTION OF VESSELS (Deratting Exemption Certificate)	9
DISINFECTATION AND DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES	127
FOODSTUFF ETC CONDEMNED AS UNSOUND	10

DISINFECTION AND DESINFESTATION

All premises where cases of acute infectious diseases had occurred were disinfected with Formalin.

The Police ambulances were disinfected as required following the conveyance of patients suffering from infectious disease.

Many premises, mainly kitchens and shops, were disinfested for cockroaches and other vermin. The latest modern insecticides and equipment were used and discretion exercised as to the use of non-toxic materials where food is prepared or stored.

Private dwellings, Government premises and accumulations in open areas were also done as required.

Articles disinfected either by steam or formaldehyde gas, are described in the following table under the head Disinfection.

DISINFECTION

Details of work done at the disinfecting Station during 1974

Month	Beds & Mattresses	Bolsters and Pillows	Blankets and Quilts	Sheets	Sundries	Totals
January	2	1	-	-	6	9
February	-	-	1	-	16	17
March	-	4	3	1	12	20
April	1	1	-	3	9	14
May	2	1	4	3	18	28
June	1	2	-	-	12	15
July	-	1	2	1	9	13
August	4	4	1	1	10	20
September	2	1	1	2	14	20
October	5	1	3	1	7	17
November	2	-	-	2	6	10
December	-	-	-	-	4	4
Total:	19	16	15	14	123	187

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Identification: 30 samples of mosquito larvae from various localities were examined for identification and the following varieties were found:

8 samples Culex pipiens

22 " Theobaldia longerolata

Mosquito control was kept up and a close liaison was maintained with the Services Hygienists.

MOSQUITO CAMPAIGN 1974

MONTHS	VISITS PAID TO PREMISES	BREEDING PLACES FOUND		TOTAL
		North District	South District	
January	96	4	-	4
February	109	2	4	6
March	208	3	2	5
April	206	4	8	12
May	198	1	24	25
June	190	2	16	18
July	197	6	8	14
August	98	8	16	24
September	84	4	9	13
October	65	2	6	8
November	83	3	4	7
December	59	-	-	-
TOTAL		39	97	136

Breeding places found consisted mainly of -

Street gullies iron drums galvanised iron water tanks storm water drains etc.

RODENT CONTROL

The measures adopted in recent years for the extermination and repression of this pest were continued during the year under review with very favourable results.

The poisons at present being used are warfarin, zinc phosphide, arsenious oxide and alpha choralose. Flouroacteamide 1081 was also obtained, primarily for baiting sewers. Of these, the most popular, as also the safest, is warfarin.

Despite its slow action it has certainly proved to be a most effective poison for rodents. It is supplied free to members of the public for ordinary treatments. Complaints received are investigated at once and the best treatment to be applied, either by the complainant himself, or by the Rodent Department's team is decided.

Excluding the number of rodents killed privately, an estimated kill of 387 is recorded from treatments carried out by the Rodent Section of the Public Health Department.

Under Article 54 of the International Health Regulations vessels are inspected, as required, for the presence of rat and Deratting Exemption Certificates are issued when appropriate. Nine vessels were inspected and 9 certificates issued during 1974.

SUMMARY OF TREATMENTS DURING THE YEAR 1974

No of Premises	Sewers	Prebaits Laid	Poison baits Laid	Total Takes	Carcasess found			Estimated Kill
					RR	RN	MM	
159	273	5630	1985	791	15	0	61	387

Amount of Warfarin issued..... 330 lbs

Carcasses examined in the Laboratories 1

FOOD IN RELATION TO HEALTH AND DISEASE

PUBLIC MARKETS

General maintenance work was kept up throughout the year.

FOOD

Supplies of food have been adequate throughout the year.

MEAT

All supplies of frozen beef, pork, veal, mutton and offal were imported from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Denmark, Germany, Holland, Kenya, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States and New Zealand.

8872 lbs of fresh meat were imported from Morocco and 98,850 lbs of fresh meat from the United Kingdom, this represents a considerable decrease from previous years.

POULTRY

This is mostly imported frozen but some fresh poultry was also available throughout the year.

FISH

With the exception of small consignments brought in by local fishing boats, all fish was imported from Morocco. A total of 218,650 lbs of fish have been so imported.

EGGS

Adequate supplies have been imported from the United Kingdom, Belgium and Holland.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Supplies of fresh fruit and vegetables were imported from Morocco and other European countries including Great Britain.

MILK

Sterilized homogenised milk in sealed bottles, as also UHT milk, were imported from the United Kingdom and other approved countries. However, condensed or evaporated tinned varieties are the staple products commonly used.

GROCERIES

Groceries imported from the United Kingdom and other countries have been adequate and generally of satisfactory quality.

SLAUGHTERING

There is one slaughterhouse in Gibraltar situated in the Upper Rock Adjoining this slaughterhouse are the piggeries, which house some 200 pigs.

Forty pigs with a total weight of 4745 lbs were slaughtered during 1974. These were duly inspected (ante mortem and post mortem) by the Public Health Inspectors and passed as fit for human consumption.

ICE CREAM

All premises where ice-cream is sold must be registered with the Government in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Ordinance.

Frequent visits were paid by the Public Health Inspectors to advise on measures designed to attain the highest standards of cleanliness and hygiene possible. Fortysix samples were taken and examined bacteriologically in the Public Health and Clinical Pathology Laboratories.

Considerable quantities of ice-cream manufactured by reputable firms in Great Britain and Italy were also imported regularly. The sale of these products is conditional on their being sold in the original sealed wrappers or containers, and subject to the same sanitary requirements as those produced locally. Soft ice-cream is also finding an increasing market in Gibraltar, this being sold both at establishments and from mobile units.

EATING HOUSES - CONFECTIONERIES AND CAFES

All premises wherein food is prepared by any process of cooking, or which are used for the manufacture or preservation of food products, as well as purveyors and vendors of refreshments, confectionery, cakes, sweets, etc., must be registered with the Government.

Food catering establishments were inspected regularly by the Department's Inspectors in the course of which advice was given to the owners on food hygiene and on all matters concerning the storing, handling and preparation of food destined for human consumption.

SAMPLING

The various samples taken under the Food and Drugs Ordinance during 1974 are classified in the following table -

	Total	Official Samples		Informal Samples	
		Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated
Mineral water	4			4	
Chick Pea Flour	1			1	
Sterilized Milk	5			5	
Fresh cockles	1			1	
Lemon and Lime Cordial	1			1	
Soft Ice Cream	46			46	
Condensed Milk	4			4	
Evaporated Milk	3			3	
Fresh Mussels	2			2	
Tinned Mussels	1			1	
Soft drinks	37			37	
Stuffed olives	1			1	
Melon	1			1	
Iced Orange Bar	1			1	
Mayonnaise	1			1	
Rose Flavour Syrup	1			1	
Bottled Oil	2			2	
Tinned Tunafish	1			1	
Chestnuts	10			10	
Ice Cream	1			1	
Tomato puree	2			2	
Fried Tomatoes	1			1	
Tinned Tomatoes	2			2	
Meat	1			1	
Fish	1			1	
Bread	1			1	
Sugar	1			1	
Cat Food	2			2	
Whole Milk	1			1	
UHT Milk	1			1	
Chocolate Flavoured Milk	1			1	

CONDEMNATION OF FOOD 1974

Margarine	3792 lbs 8 ozs
Cheese	2167 lbs 13 ozs
Ham	2443 lbs
Chicken	27 lbs
Ox Tongue	6 lbs
Lundheon Meat (Mortadella)	4 lbs 8 ozs
Pork	160 lbs 2 ozs
Pork (tinned)	10 : 55 x 4 lb tins
Butter	80 lbs 8 ozs
Fish	260 lbs
Sausages	548 lbs
Salami	13 lbs 8 ozs
Gammon	15 lbs
Yorkshire Pudding	216 lbs
Tuna Fish	49 x 9 ozs tins
Steak & Kidney Pies	125 tins
Cakes	10 cases
Sugar	2268 lbs
Milk (Tinned)	2605 tins
Milk (Bottled)	739 x 1 litre bottles
Jelly	65 tablets
Olives	66 lbs
Biscuits	167 pkts
Marshmallows	10 cases
Rice	167 lbs
Assorted Vegetables (tinned)	369 x 15 ozs tins
Salmon	32 lbs 8 ozs
Chestnuts	22 lbs 8 ozs
Chocolate Beans	710 pkts
Beef	6 pkts
Prawns	452 lbs

PUBLIC HEALTH AND CLINICAL PATHOLOGY LABORATORIES

REPORT OF THE PATHOLOGIST-ANALYST

GIBRALTAR

In June 1974 the Laboratories of Clinical Pathology and Public Health were transferred from the old City Hall to new premises in St Bernard's Hospital. These are more spacious and provide a considerable increase in working bench area. The proximity to the clinical units creates a closer patient involvement and improvement in the job satisfaction of the technical staff has been noted.

In conjunction with the Department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics new schemes for disease screening have been introduced during the year. Cytology investigations for early detection of malignant disease, especially carcinoma of the cervix, have been carried out in increasing numbers and five hundred and seventy seven such investigations were done during the year. The Guthrie test for the early detection of phenylketonuria has been introduced and blood specimens of all neonates are tested six days and six weeks post natal.

In keeping with new developments in the fields of Pathology and Chemical Analysis a number of new techniques have been introduced during the year and a full service in these fields compatible with our resources continues to be on offer. The recent acquisition of an Ultra-violet spectrophotometer has greatly helped towards the broadening of the range of investigations.

One thousand four hundred and eighteen analyses were done on samples submitted to ascertain compliance with the Foods and Drugs Ordinance. Fifteen of the samples did not satisfy the Regulations. This figure does not include those samples found defective due to bacterial contamination. Routine investigations for the presence of heavy metals in potable water were also introduced.

The Laboratories are recognised by the World Health Organisation as a centre for yellow fever innoculations, and by the Institute of Medical Laboratory Technology for the training of Technicians to intermediate level.

A total of one hundred and six thousand three hundred and thirty two investigations were done in the courseof the year, this shows an increase of over two thousand over 1973.

INVESTIGATIONS	St Bernard's Hospital	Civil	DOE	TOTAL
BLOOD				
(1) CYTOLOGICAL - Rbcs., Wbcs., differential counts absolute values, platelets, reticulocytes, colour index, fragility of Rbcs, L.E. cells bleeding, coagulation and prothrombin time ratio, erythrocyte sedimentation rate, packed cell volume, blood films, foetal cells, PAS NAP Feulgen reaction and Malaria Parasites, Marrow biopsies.	29094	4748		33842
(2) BIOCHEMISTRY - Determination of urea, glucose, calcium, uric acid, cholesterol, acid and alkaline phosphatase, glucose tolerance curves, total proteins, albumen, globulin, A/G ratio, Van den Bergh reaction, bilirubin, thymol and zinc sulphate turbidity and flocculation, Schurm's test, Pyruvic and Glutamic transaminases, lactic dehydrogenase, serum iron and total iron binding capacity, amylase, creatine, creatinine, congo red test, phosphorus, Bronsulphalein test Salicylates and barbiturates and Fibrinogen	10823	1697		12520
(3) SEROLOGY - Wassermann reaction, Kahn test, VDRL flocculation test, Gonococcal complement fixation test, Weil Felix and Widal agglutination tests, cold agglutimins. Paul Bunnell test for heterophil antibodies, Latex R.A Test C Reaction Protein Anti-streptolysin test.	3285	372		3657
(4) TRANSFUSION - ABO grouping, Rhesus factor, genotyping, cross-matching, Direct and Indirect Coomb's test for incomplete antibodies, Detection and titration of antibodies, sub-grouping.	3944	120		4064
(5) ELECTROLYTES - Sodium, Potassium, Chlorides and Bicarbonate determination	3649	30		3679
(6) ELECTROPHORESIS - Paper Chromatography	45			45
CEREBRO SPINAL FLUID				
(1) CYTOLOGICAL - Cells and cytological differential counts	100			100
(2) BIOCHEMISTRY - Determination of total proteins, albumin, globulin, suger, urea, chlorides and LDH Nonne Apelt, Wassermann Reaction and Langis Colloidal gold Curve	245			245

INVESTIGATIONS	St Bernard's Hospital	Civil	DOE	TOTAL
(3) BACTERIOLOGY - Culture for Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Neisseria Meningitidis and other organisms	129			129
(4) DIRECT EXAMINATION - Ziehl-Neilsen stain for Myco Tuberculosis and Gram's Stain for N Meningitidis & other organisms	27			27
HISTO-PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATION - on specimens removed at surgical and post-mortem. Macro and microscopical examination	561	2		563
SMEARS FOR CYTOLOGY - Malignancy, Papanicolau & other stains	526	51		577
BACTERIOLOGY - (1) Culture for Salmonella group and other organisms	176	12		188
(2) Swabs - Pus Cultures and sensitivities for Corynebacterium, diphtheriae, Myco Tuberculosis, N. gonorrhoeae, other micro organisms	1359	456		1815
(3) Direct examination -	3917	1631		5548
SPUTA (1) CYTOLOGICAL - Malignant cells, elastic fibres, fungi and others	631	175		806
(2) BACTERIOLOGY - Culture for Myco Tuberculosis and other organisms	1454	152		1606
(3) DIRECT EXAMINATION - Ziehl Neilsen stain for acid-fast bacilli, Gram Stain for other organisms and sensitivities for same	2525	1631		4156
FAECES (1) CYTOLOGICAL - Rbcs, Leucocytes epithelial cells, fatty acid crystals, food residues, ova, cysts amoebae, parasites including flagellates & foreign bodies	464	97		561
(2) BIOCHEMISTRY - Occult blood, stercobilin, urobilinogen diastase & fats estimation	631	159		790
(3) BACTERIOLOGY - Cultures for Salmonella, Shigella and other Pathogens. Organisms isolated from cultures from miscellaneous sources for sensitivity to various antibiotics	1217	576		1793

INVESTIGATIONS	St Bernard's Hospital	Civil	DOE	TOTAL
ASCITES, PLEURAL AND SYNOVIAL FLUIDS				
(1) BYTOLOGICAL - Cells and differential counts, malignant cells	78	10		88
(2) BIOCHEMISTRY - Specific gravity, Rivalta's Test and Proteins	166	5		171
(3) BACTERIOLOGY - Culture for acid - Fast Bacilli and other organisms	236			236
GASTRIC LAVAGE				
For Myco Tuberculosis, salicylates barbiturates & other drugs or poisons	67			67
GASTRIC CONTENTS				
(1) BIOCHEMISTRY - Fractional, alcohol & histamine test meals. Presence of pus, altered blood, RBCs mucus, bile and pH	167			167
URINE				
(1) CYTOLOGICAL - Microscopical of Deposit for cells, Crystals, casts etc.	2175	773		2948
(2) BIOCHEMISTRY - Acetone, Albumin, glucose, osazone test bile salts & pigments, blood & derivatives calcium, chlorides, diastase, ascorbic acid, zylose, pH, reaction, specific gravity urea, phosphates uric acid, porphyrins Bence-Jones Proteins, Keto & Keto-genic steroids VMA and 5HIAA	5674	2941		8615
(3) BACTERIOLOGY - Culture for E.Coli, Myco Turbeculosis and other organisms and sensitivities	11071	3016		14087
(4) DIRECT EXAMINATIONS - For Myco Tuberculosis	40	1		41
(5) PREGNANCY TEST - Human Choriomic Gonadotropin	318	244		562
(6) CALCULI - Biochemical composition of.	9	2		11
DARK GROUND ILLUMINATION -				
For presence of Treponema Pallidum in venereal sores and chancres	2	2		4

INVESTIGATIONS	St Bernard's Hospital	Civil	DoE	TOTAL
URETHRAL DISCHARGE				
For N Gonorrhoeae and sensitivities	425	49		474
SEMINAL FLUID				
Spermatozoa count, mobility morphology etc	90	60		150
HAIR AND SKIN SCRAPINGS				
Fungi	28	15		43
RATS				
Evidence of Plague		25		25
YELLOW FEVER INNOCULATIONS	2	108		110
FOODS AND DRUGS				
WATER				
(1) BACTERIOLOGY - 48 hours culture @ 44°c for Escherichia Coli		263	35	298
(2) CHEMICAL - Determination of chlorides, free chlorides pH value total solids, temporary permanent and total hardness. alkalinity, ammonia salts & other metals and redicles and examination for contamination & adulteration		312	50	362
LEMONADES AND SOFE DRINKS				
Bacterial Examination including E.Coli		74		74
FOOD STUFFS ETC				
Ice-creams: Methylene Blue Reduction Test and Chemical analysis fat contents, types of fat, solid etc.				
Fresh, Evaporated & Condensed milk(tinned carton & frozen)including sterilised & UHT Long Life Milks.				
(1) CULTURE FOR ORGANISMS (2) METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST (3) CHEMICAL: Determination of fat, total solids, non-fatty solids, specific gravity additives & for sterility.				
OTHER FOOD STUFFS INCLUDING: Eggs, cheese, bread butter, margarine, jams, corned-beef sausages, mayonaise, Yoghurt, and canned meats for adulteration. Fruit juices, soft drinks etc for artificial sweeteners and preservaties; Miscellaneous foods for analysis for nature, substance and quality and verification of claims on labels.		769		769
Insects and parts for Identifications and Classifications and examination of Food-Stuffs for insect infestation.				
Guthrie's Test for P.K U.	319			319
GRAND TOTAL:				106332

MEDICAL AND HOSPITAL REPORT

I ADMINISTRATION

The Government Medical and Health Services consist of:

Hospital Services, Specialised Medical Treatment outside Government hospitals, (where such treatment is beyond the scope of local resources); Child Welfare and School Health Services; Domiciliary and Out Patient Treatment of persons coming under the scope of the District Medical Service; Domiciliary Medical Service; Port and Airport Health Service; Public Health Inspection and Laboratories.

The Group Practice Medical Scheme was instituted in July 1973 and enables registered persons and their dependants to obtain medical treatment in Government surgeries or in their homes if they are unable to attend the surgeries. The fee for attendance at the surgeries is 20 pence. The fees for house visits are 50 pence during normal hours and 75 pence outside these hours. Persons who are included in the District Medical Scheme obtain treatment free of charge.

Gibraltar has a reciprocal health services Agreement with Britain as from 1st January 1974.

Under this Agreement citizens of the United Kingdom temporarily resident in Gibraltar are entitled to health care in Gibraltar on the same conditions as citizens of Gibraltar.

Citizens of Gibraltar temporarily resident in the United Kingdom are entitled to health care in the United Kingdom on the same conditions as the people of the United Kingdom.

The Agreement does not apply to persons who go from one country to the other for the express purpose of benefiting from the agreement, except that, where a citizen of Gibraltar is in need of hospital care for which adequate facilities do not exist in Gibraltar he receives that hospital care in the United Kingdom on the same conditions as people of the United Kingdom.

Notwithstanding the new Agreement a British Subject ordinarily resident in Gibraltar is entitled to use the Government's medical service and is charged the same fees as a Gibraltarian.

A Health Centre which houses the Government Surgeries run in connection with the Group Practice Medical Scheme was opened in July 1974. The Public Health Inspectorate, the Child Welfare and School Medical Services, which include Immunisation and Vaccination, and the District Clinic, are also housed in this Centre.

The Public Health and Clinical Pathology Laboratory moved from the City Hall to their new premises at St Bernard's Hospital on the 24 June.

Mr L L Bromley, FRCS Surgeon in Charge of the Thoracic Unit. Dr Oscar Craig, Consultant Radiologist, and Dr K Granville Grossman, Consultant Psychiatrist, from St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, and Mr Henry Shaw, FRCS Ear Nose & Throat Consultant at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, visited Gibraltar on various occasions during the year to advise and operate in their respective specialities.

An Emergency Dispensary Service was provided at St Bernard's Hospital. This is staffed by personnel from the Hospital Dispensary and enables the public to obtain medicines on prescriptions issued after normal shop hours. This Service will terminate in 1975 with the introduction of a comprehensive Health Service.

Fortythree patients were sent to various hospitals in Britain during the course of the year. As usual, the majority of these went to the Royal Marsden Hospital and to St Mary's Hospital, London.

Immunisation of children is under the direct control of the Director of Medical and Health Services who is also the Principal School Medical Officer. Children found to be in need of medical treatment are referred to a Special Sick Children Clinic at St Bernard's Hospital or to their own doctors.

II STAFF

There were 85 nurses in training. Fifty one of these entered the Service during the year and attended a months course of pre nursing orientation and adaptation.

Five passed one part of the Intermediate and two passed both parts of the Intermediate Examination. Twelve attended the formal introductory course of 8 weeks.

Eleven nurses did the Senior course and four entered and passed the Final examination and were promoted to Staff Nurse.

Two nurses were sent for training to Britain during the year under review under Government Sponsorship.

Seven nurses applied for Registration with the General Nursing Council for England and Wales and obtained the SRN without further training.

Three nurses had to attend periods of four months adaptation before being registered.

The following changes in the medical staff took place during the year:-

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr Stuart Fraser, 10 January
Dr Roger Doherty, 18 January
Dr Michael Maskill, 24 January
Dr Philip Jones, 1 February
Dr Meir Garson, 15 July
Dr John Pomeroy, 26 June
Dr Gordon McGrath, 31 July
Mr Christian Langdon, Dental Surgeon, 30 September

LEFT THE SERVICE

Dr Keith Sweetman, 11 January
Dr Jon Parker, 24th January
Dr Robert K Hurst, 23 January
Dr James F O'Mahony, 30 June
Dr Stuart Fraser, 11 July
Dr Michael Maskill 22 July

III LEGISLATION

The Price Control (Medicines) Notice published on the 7 March established the maximum wholesale and retail prices at which medicines could be sold.

The Medical Committee (Establishment) (Amendment) Notice dated 25 April amended the composition of the Medical Committee appointed under the Medical and Health Ordinance by restricting membership to the Medical staff employed by the Government, including doctors working in the Group Practice Medical Scheme.

Legal Notice No 65 of 1974 dated 20 June delegated to the Director of Medical and Health Services the exercise of thepowers and the performance of duties under Parts II and III of the Misuse of Drugs Ordinance.

The Group Practice Medical Scheme (Amendment) Ordinance 1974 amended the principal Ordinance consequent on the introduction of a comprehensive health service with effect from 6 January. The basic change was an increase in the weekly contributions payable by persons insured under the Employment Injuries Insurance Ordinance or the Social Insurance Ordinance. The Group Practice Medical Scheme Regulations, which followed on the 28 November, established that in exchange for the increased contributions, registered persons and their dependants would be able to obtain medicines prescribed by a doctor under the Scheme, from Scheme Pharmacist on payment of 10 pence per item on the prescription - District patients were exempted from the payment of any fees.

The Misuse of Drugs Regulations dated the 12 December completed the updating of legislation concerning dangerous drugs by repealing the Dangerous Drugs Regulations 1969 and introducing supplementary legislation based on the United Kingdom legislation.

The Hospitals (Fees and Charges) Rules dated 19 December introduced a number of changes in the fees payable and included inter alia in the category of 'entitled persons', United Kingdom citizens covered by the Reciprocal Health Service Agreement (referred to above) and EEC Nationals. These changes will become operational on 1st January 1975.

IV FINANCIAL

Fees are payable in accordance with the Hospitals (Fees and Charges) Rules, but in the case of 'entitled persons' ie

(a) a British subject ordinarily resident in Gibraltar

(b) a British subject resident in the Campo Area who is registered as a Gibraltarian in the register maintained by virtue of the provisions of the Gibraltarian Status Ordinance;

(c) an alien working and residing in Gibraltar in respect of whom a permit of residence granted under the provisions of the Immigration Control Ordinance is in force, and the wife and children under twenty-one years of age of any such person, provided that such wife and children are also residing in Gibraltar under permits of residence;

(d) a national of the United Kingdom covered by the Reciprocal Health Agreement between Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of Gibraltar; or

(e) a national of the European Economic Community who is in possession of Form E111 issued by the competent authority of the country of the Community of which he is a national;

the fee for accommodation in a general ward is related to family size and family income . The scale of fees payable by 'entitled persons' ranges from NIL to 60p. Out-patients pay a fee of 20p for each consultation other than the first consultation, which is free, provided they have been referred by a doctor under the Scheme. Otherwise, out-patients pay a fee of £1.00 for each consultation.

No charge is made for medicines to any in-patient, but patients who are 'entitled persons' and who are accommodated in ageneral ward, whose family income exceeds £35 per week have to pay additional charges for Operation, Anaesthesia, Accouchment, etc., 'Entitled persons' accommodated in a private ward, and 'non-entitled persons' accommodated in either a general or private ward, irrespective of the amount of family income, have to pay additional charges for the services mentioned above.

Details of the respective fees are set out in the First,Second and Third Schedules to the Hospital (Fees and Charges) Rules 1974.

V DISTRICT MEDICAL SERVICE

The Group Practice Medical Scheme Doctors and a team of District Nurses see District Patients at the Health Centre and attend to domiciliary cases whenever necessary. Treatment, including hospital treatment, medicines and any surgical appliances that District patients may need are provided free of charge. The Group Practice Medical Scheme also provides medical attention required by the residents of the John Mackintosh Homes for the aged.

VI HOSPITALS

(1) ST BERNARD'S HOSPITAL

St Bernard's Hospital, with 180 beds, is essentially available for the resident community and the passengers and crews of ships and planes calling at Gibraltar, but patients from neighbouring districts are given facilities for treatment and hospitalisation. The Hospital provides a comprehensive Out-patient service and In-patient treatment for acute medical and surgical cases. In addition, it has a Maternity Section, a ward for elderly sick patients and a small isolation unit.

The number of beds is made up as follows -

Napier Ward (Male Surgical)	24
Godley Ward (Female Surgical)....	23
Don Ward (Geriatric)..... ..	18
Children's Ward.....	20
Maternity Block	17
John Ward (Male Medical).....	30
Victoria Ward (Female Medical)...	26
Intensive Therapy Unit.....	5
Private Corridor.....	17
	180

The following table shows in-patient statistics for the year under review compared with 1973:

	1974	1973
Total daily bed counts:	40526	42530
Average number of patients per day	111	117
Average length of stay (days)	11	12.5
Number of admissions	3779	3415
Number of deaths	159	170

One thousand three hundred and eightynine operations were performed in the major operating theatre during the year, as against 1327 in 1973.

The break-down of operations was as follows:

	1974	1973
General Surgery	517	550
Gynaecology	339	212
Urology	79	88
Orthopaedic	228	246
Thoracic	21	18
ENT	132	137
Dental	49	38
Ophthalmic	23	36
Neurology	3	2

OUT PATIENTS DEPARTMENT

The Out-patients Department provides a twenty-four hourAccident and Emergencies Service.

The Blood Department is a self-contained department, responsible for a Central Syringe Service and Central Sterile Supply Department. They all work in close liaison with the Out-patient Department.

The Dental Clinics continued to be held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons for extractions only, under Gas and Oxygen or local Anaesthetic. In November of this year our part-time Dental Surgeon was employed in a full-time capacity making it possible to hold daily dental clinics at St Bernard's Hospital. All the School Dental Clinics are now held at the Health Centre.

Clinics for diseases of the eye are held daily and an Ear Nose and Throat Clinic is held once a week.

In addition to patients attended at the regular Ophthalmic Clinics, patients suffering from domestic and industrial accidents were also seen.

The Department also holds Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics approximately every three months which are run by Mr Henry Shaw, Ear, Nose and Throat Consultant from the United Kingdom.

The number of patients seen at the Ear Nose and Throat Clinics is given under the Out-patient statistics.

A small number of children suffering from squint are given Orthoptic treatment twice weekly.

The total number of patients seen during the year was as follows:

Adults, new patients	1734
Adults, old patients	1080
Prescription for glasses given	1223
Domestic and Industrial	309
Children, New patients	828
Children, old patients	328
Prescriptions for glasses given	337
Accidents	120

During the year a total of 23 major operations were performed.

X-RAY DEPARTMENT

The statistics for the year were as follows -

	1974	1973
Number of patients examined	8170	8831
Gastro Intestinal examinations	227	288
Biliary examinations	259	245
Renal examinations	129	102
Abdominal investigations	710	630
Pregnancy investigations	43	35
Thoracic investigations	4455	5010
Extremities investigations	1978	1758
Cranial investigations	691	651
Spinal investigations	802	588
Tomography examinations	50	28
Bronchography examinations	12	11
Cases requiring X-Ray control in the Operating Theatre	23	24
Cases requiring X-ray with mobile unit in Wards	211	205
Cases X-rayed after normal working hours including week-ends and Bank Holidays	426	199
Films used	14406	13631
Units	96037	18409
Private patients examined	2496	2626
Hystero-salpingograms	12	-
Sinograms	2	-
Splenograms	1	-
Micturating Cystograms	5	-
Lymphangiogram (Abdominal)	1	-

Dr Oscar Craig, the Consultant Radiologist, paid three visits during the year.

PHYSIOTHERAPY DEPARTMENT

The Department has been short-staffed since July 1973. As usual it has been quite busy throughout the year and both in-patients and out-patients have benefitted greatly from the various forms of treatment. Patients have been referred by Private Doctors as well as from the Health Centre and the Hospital.

Consultant orthopaedic and fracture clinics are held weekly in the Department:

Treatments given during the year were as follows:

	1974	1973
Total number of in-patient treatments	3212	3473
Total number of in-patients	531	560
Total number of out-patient treatments	25221	11585
Total number of out-patients	2461	1712

CLINICS

During the year it was decided that all the fracture clinic patients should attend the Old Patients Physiotherapy Clinic

	1974	1973
Old patients Physiotherapy Clinic	851	905
New Patients Physiotherapy Clinic	572	637

SPEECH THERAPY DEPARTMENT

This reports covers the period January to November 1974 when the contract of our Speech Therapist expired.

		1974	1973
Attendances:	Children	946	1409
	Adults	128	365
Sessions Held		295	405

Daily appointments - up to 13 are made, but this varies according to type of patient.

Average No of patients per month:

		1974	1973
	Children	25	33
	Adults	2	6
Total number of patients per year:			
	Children	40	55
	Adults	6	20
Total discharged:	Children	7	14
	Adults	6	16
	Forces Children	7	8
	Discharged to UK	4	2

SCHOOL VISITS:

Average 7 per month. In July ahd August the children were on holiday and away from school and attendances fell.

HEARING TESTS: Twentytwo were carried out at the hospital.

At the end of April a screening programme was initiated to test all the intake children at Infant School and the transfer classes in the junior schools. Although very time consuming this was a worth-while exercise as several children were noted who had speech problems, and one who was hard of hearing. Unfortunately it was not possible to cover many of the schools owing to lack of time.

SPEECH ASSESSMENTS:

Thirteen assessments have been made, apart from the normal ones made before treatment. Several 2-3 year olds have been sent which is good, as it is always better to assess and start early on treatment and advice.

HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN:

Two small children have been sent to UK for full assessment at a very early age. This gives the best prognosis for treatment and schooling, and it is hoped that all will continue to go well with these children.

OTHERS:

One child has been sent to UK for further cleft palate surgery. This was successful and she has now the potential for better speech. Unfortunately a new Speech Therapist has not yet been appointed. This is a time when several children are going to need one most and will be able to benefit from treatment. Speech Therapy services are well established in Gibraltar and the speech therapist in the schools is now a familiar sight.

It is intended to recruit a Speech Therapist by beginning of 1975. The education department certainly needs one and although there is not a high number of adult patients there are some who should be offered this service.

SOCIAL HYGIENE

Treatment for venereal disease is available, and under the terms of the International Agreement, merchant seamen or any other visitor of all nationalities can attend for treatment free of charge at any time of the day.

(2) K G V PSYCHIATRIC UNIT

KGV Hospital is the only Psychiatric Unit in Gibraltar. It has a capacity of 60 beds. Like the other Hospital in the Department it caters principally for the resident civilian community and passengers and members of crews of ships visiting Gibraltar, but patients from the armed forces and British Subjects residing in neighbouring countries are also admitted. Admission is subject to the same administrative conditions as applied to the other Hospital in the Department.

The Occupational Therapy Department forms an integral part of the Unit and although it provides occupational and diversional therapy for patients in the other Hospital who may require it, the bulk of its work is concerned with patients from the Psychiatric Unit some 20 of whom attend the Department twice daily. More details of this Department will be found further on.

An out-patient clinic is held every Wednesday afternoon, with the Superintendent, Dr C M Montegriffo in attendance, who also holds a clinic at St Bernard's Hospital every Friday morning. He also attends the in-patients in the Unit every morning, and answers emergency calls.

A welfare and district service is very efficiently run by the Mental Welfare Officer, whose office is housed at the Health Centre. His duties consist of attending all clinics, to be on call at all hours of the day and night when his services are required by the Hospital Doctors, Police and relatives of discharged patients. He visits patients at their homes and sees them at his office and at their places of work. Working in conjunction with the Superintendent he has been able to find jobs and accommodation for patients during the course of the year. Due to his work a large proportion of discharged and out-patients are able to live a compatible life with the community. The work of the Mental Welfare Officer has proved very profitable in the field of Welfare and District Service and is reaping rewarding results.

Dr Granville Grossman, the Consultant Psychiatrist, visits the Unit on 4 occasions during the year. He examines in-patients and also holds out-patient clinics in consultation with the Superintendent.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Patients attended football matches, went to a local cinema, the annual fair and similar outings accompanied by members of the Staff. During the Summer they were taken to the beach and for walks around the Alameda Gardens. Annual parties were given on St Joseph's Day and on Christmas Day.

As in previous years, members of the Jewish Hospital Committee supplied cakes for high teas and distributed sweets and also cigarettes to all the patients at all their Feast Days. Each patient received a Christmas present from the Red Cross, and a present each from the Matron at the Christmas Party.

During the course of the year, Messrs Sacconne and Speed Ltd on several occasions supplied a fairly large quantity of cigarettes for the patients.

Patients attended Holy Mass at the nearby St Joseph's Chapel as well as at the Hospital Chapel on Christmas Day.

LEAGUE OF HOSPITAL FRIENDS - This organization has given great satisfaction to both the patients and the Staff, with their help and support during the course of the year. To enumerate all their work and activities would be an endless task, but to mention just a few they consisted of supplying cakes and soft drinks at monthly parties where sweets and cigarettes were also distributed to all patients, during these parties they supplied music and partners for the patients to dance and at times live entertainment. Their gifts have included, footrests, pictures, curtains etc. They also presented each patient with a gift on Christmas Day.

A member of the League of Hospital Friends visited the Unit almost every Friday and with the help of several young ladies who accompanied him, distributed sweets and cigarettes to all the patients.

Some anonymous organizations also presented the patients with some kind of gifts and some donated cash for the Unit.

To all its benefactors who presented the Hospital with gifts in cash and in kind and to those who gave their services free to organize recreational activities for the patients the Department is greatly indebted.

IN-PATIENTS STATISTICS

The following table shows the in-patients statistics for the year under review:

Average number of patients per day	56
Number of Admissions during the year	108
Number of Discharges	96
Number of Deaths	11
Informal patients	20
Patients for treatment	33
Certified patients	3

8 patients had courses of electro-convulsive therapy receiving a total of 42 shocks in all.

DISEASES TREATED

Epilepsy	1
General Paralysis of the Insane	4
Schizophrenia	20
Manic-Depressive	2
Senile Dementia	12
Oligophrenia	8
Alcoholism	1
Agitated Melancholia	1
Acute Depressive State	5
Pre-Senile Dementia	2

OUT-PATIENTS STATISTICS

The total number of attendances at the out-patients clinic in the Unit was 847.

14 patients received courses of electro-convulsive therapy, having a total of 102 shocks in all.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

As previously stated 24 patients attend this Department daily and under supervision perform many types of work. This consists of cane work, tapestry, water colour paintings, drawings, making pictures and framing them, etc. This is done in the mornings and mostly by the male patients. The females are engaged in sewing, knitting and the making of gauze swabs for the Operating Theatre. In the afternoons they usually tackle the unfinished jobs from the mornings and finish the day playing games. The patients attend this department from 9am to 12 midday and from 1 to 5pm daily from Monday to Friday every week except on Public Holidays.

OUT PATIENT STATISTICS

Clinic	Days Held	Attending Doctor	Number of Attendances 1974	1973
Special Preparatory	Tuesday mornings	General Doctor	271	260
Medical	Wednesday mornings	Dr J J Giraldi	357	399
Psychiatric	Friday mornings	Dr C M Montegriffo	-	184
Dental	Monday to Fridays	Mr J J Cochrane		1824
General Surgical	Wednesday & Friday afternoons	Mr D J Toomey	2086	2958
Employment Test	Every morning	General Doctor	940	889
Ante Natal Booking	Wednesday mornings	-	370	372
Board Clinic Insurance	Saturday mornings	-	43	45
Ear Nose & Throat	Monday afternoons	Mr H Shaw Mr D J Toomey	656	841
Gynaecological Clinic	Thursday mornings	Mr R Doherty Mr B Lambert	986	776
General Medical	Friday afternoons	General Doctor	650	964
Diabetic	Tuesday afternoons	General Doctor	632	936
Fracture	Friday afternoons	Surg Capt E H Murchison		166
Morning Clinic	Monday to Saturday mornings	General Doctor	4902	2547
Orthopaedic	Monday & Tuesday afternoons	Surg Capt E H Murchison	1356	860
Accidents & Emergencies	Daily	-	8450	8685
Ophthalmic Clinic	Monday to Saturday	Mr C Suarez	2262	2236